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The Brotherhood of Man.

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A THOUGHT

FOR YEAR 1903.



The Brotherhood of Man.



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The best perception of this relationship is from the purview of human origin through spiritual intuition. It emanates from the spiritual rather than from the material, or carnal side of man.

Viewing man in nature from his noblest side, the Anglo-Saxon race finds some of the highest human thoughts expressed in the ancient Hebrew writings. The mind of man today, as in days of yore, can form no higher conception of his origin, and high position on earth, than these writings afford him. Behind some of the more or less allegorical features, there is a semblance of truth which appeals to the human heart, and intellectual sympathies hereditary in the nervous system of man. If man were not of a higher caste in combined spiritual and material creation than the beasts of the earth, where would be the need of those spiritual instincts which lead him ever upwards in the evolutionary periods of earthly life? If man is only an animal of the earth, of what value to him are his high spiritual intuitions, and the offsprings of selfsacrificing love, and of noblest sympathies which are unknown to the beast? The feeling, and expression of divine adoration; of loving fellow-man as we love ourselves; the prevailing impressions of a spiritual life, and of eternal evolutionary progress, can only come from the soul.

Hence from the mind of the soul, or spirit-man alone flows the conception of man's divine origin, and of the fatherhood of the Great Spirit, "who is above all, and through all, and in

us all." From the material side alone flows the conception of the motherhood. Nature is universally represented with feminine features. Human thought, and scientific lines have mainly followed this material path of reasoning out the evolution of man in earth life. Through all the evolutionary periods of bioplasms of earthly life, in forms of tadpoles, fish, amphibian, and mammal, Nature has mothered them in her varied nurseries. The human fetus during the period of gestation displays these several features, so well known to medical science. After a germinating period of between four to five months the human form has gathered the flesh garments for the awaiting human soul, and man's earthly life begins at what is termed the "quickening" period. Thus the human soul first made for eternity in the likeness of the Great Spirit of the Universe, becomes born in the likeness of the flesh for the purposes of a temporary material life. In this way we get the true meaning of the doctrine "There is a natural body, and there is a spiritual body; first, that which is natural (flesh), and, second, the indwelling soul (spirit)." The belief in the immaculate conception appears to have no foundation in any known womb of Nature, although this belief existed in the mind of man in India long before the Christian era. It only serves to illustrate the impurity of the mere carnal mind. As, to the pure in mind, all things in nature are pure, so eternal spirit and eternal matter must be considered pure in whatever natural form they appear blended. It is, therefore, unnatural for the human mind to have any belief in such an uncalled for miracle; and to assume that there can be any better process for clothing the spirit-man in earth-life than that which Nature has designed. For this reason the earth-body is described as wonderfully made, and should be preserved healthy and clean; because from this carnal side it is what man

gets, through ignorance of spiritual control, his mere animal and selfish instincts.

It is not possible for man to follow out from the carnal side the injunctions laid down in the First and Second Commandments, "Thou shalt love thy Father-God with all thy mind, with all thy soul, and with all thy might; and thy neighbor as thyself."

Nature in material form of animate life will appear unmoral never immoral. The human child of tender years having, like other animals, no perception of good and evil, is in the unmoral stage of earthly life.

From the foregoing form of reasoning it can be seen how essential it is for man to cultivate his true spiritual nature, and intellectual faculties, in order to fulfill the two commandments; and so realize the highest form of love; and through which alone he can comprehend the meaning of the brotherhood of man. This higher perception should stimulate the parents of the flesh to become far better foster parents of the children in their earth-life, whose heritage in the past, present, and future is of a divine and spiritual nature. For the same reason it becomes the bounded duty of the Nation to foster by united efforts the most enlightened educational methods. The children form the Nation's grand future in spiritual and material progression. The Anglo-Saxon race form a fine illustration of this progression, since the period of the Roman conquest of Great Britain. What a wonderful evolution is here found in the lapse of 2000 years! What a far greater progress is probable in this land of liberty, of thought and expression, for the race ere the twentieth century is ended!

From this higher standpoint we may gain a truer perception of the meaning of the true brotherhood of man. We are

brethren by reason of our immortal nature; we have but one father, for we are spirits, and there is but one Great Spirit of the Universe. Christ truly taught "Call no man your father on the earth, for one is your father, and he is a spirit: He is my father and your father." Paul followed out this doctrine in writing: "We have had fathers of our flesh, who corrected us, and we gave them reverence; shall we not much rather be in subjection to the father of our spirits, and live?" Christ, also, taught that spirits were not born after the process of earthly marriage; thus clearly indicating that the true man is an emanation from the Great Spirit. (Mat: xxii, 30.)

Brotherhood from the material side only is but a very limited kinship; and, hence, viewed from this point only, we find, in present earth-life, a great variety of religious sects, and fraternal associations for social, and material purposes. Man is both by spiritual and carnal nature a social being. The more catholic and humane this nature can be cultivated the happier will man's earthly life become.

In the absence of this highest form of socialism, the lower grades prevail. Through these lower thoughts of earthly life, the business transactions are frosted over with the reserve of cold-blooded selfishness, which springs from the carnal instincts. It is only outside of this selfish form of business intercourse, that we see human nature at its best; and the "milk of human kindness" flowing. In free and happy intercourse, smile reciprocates smile; pleasant enjoyment is found in speech and song, and real good fellowship. This good feeling was lately most happily expressed by the president of the United States in his address at the Masonic lodge. On this occasion he showed the true manliness of his nature, and honored his high position as

president, and an ideal representative of the most progressive and cosmopolitan nation on the earth, by showing his sympathy with the spirit of brotherhood.

The utterance of such public spirited sentiments by leading men of the Nation must go a long way to remove unbrotherly feelings and strife between the working and the operating classes of the country. As educational advantages and more intellectual forms of recreations are extended to the mass of the population, truer ideas of brotherhood will flourish. Whilst all men are equal through their spiritual kinship, they cannot be so from intellectual and physical standpoints. Throughout nature we see the truth of this fact in unmistakable evidence. One star differeth from another star in glory; one tree differeth from another tree in form and stature; one flower excelleth another in beauty and fragrance; the diamond and the ruby are more precious than gold; so in man on earth is found no dead level of excellence in mind, or in material advantages.

If it were not so the life of man on earth would be far more deplorable. There would be an all-round deadness of human thought and progress. Without hard work, and lofty ambition to succeed in his special calling, and receiving proper reward, there could be no development of those more gifted individuals who now form the ornament and pride of the Nation, and whose names become immortal. The world at large envies Italy in her divine Titian, Raffaele, Galileo, and Marconi; Greece in her sculptors, her Homer, her Plato and her Aristotle; England in her King Arthur, Shakespeare, Bacon, Isaac Newton, Faraday, and Spencer; Scotland in her Burns; America in her Washington, Lincoln, Longfellow, Edison, and Peter Cooper; Germany in her Goethe, Haeckel, and Mendelssohns.

Human nature has risen through the knowledge of good and evil. With the prevalence of pain and sorrow human sympathies have been evoked, through which hospitals have flourished, medical science has marvellously been developed, and noble self-denying women have appeared as angels to suffering humanity.

Truly men can be on an equal plane in their sense of justice, equity, mercy, love of peace, and of country, in all of which can be evolved the best sentiments of material equality, and abasement of carnal forms of selfishness. The workingman is worthy of his proper hire; the gifted man of his fame and reward; and the capitalist of legitimate profits for his enterprise in the field, the forest, the mine, and the sea.

One of the most important outcomes of the true spirit of brotherhood could be shown in giving greater educational advantages to the parents and children of the working classes, who form the bulk of the population. By this should be understood a more popular expansion and diffusion of the knowledge of spirit and matter in nature, and of man; and of his place and duties in earth-life. The need for this, both in the case of the individual and of the Nation, is made very apparent by statistics furnished by the census bureau. Man and woman from earliest childhood to old age should be ever learning from their Mother—Nature; and in this knowledge of nature their intellectual faculties will be stimulated and refreshed and refined by their innate spiritual attributes. The query of the old Psalmist, "What is man?" is answered by him in the truest sense, if we could but realize it, "I said ye are gods!"

Now, do the census returns of public education show a sufficiency of useful knowledge among the masses, by which earthly life can be made as pleasant, and as useful for the unit and for

the whole Nation, as should be? The following data from the census returns of the United States in 1899 give an unsatisfactory answer to this question.

	Numbers.	Per Cent of Pop.
Pupils in public elementary schools	14,662,488	19.2
Pupils in private elementary schools	1,193,882	1.6
Pupils in public high school grade	488,549	0.64
Pupils in private high school grade	166,679	0.22
Pupils in universities and colleges	103,251	0.14
Pupils in professional schools	55,134	0.07
Pupils in normal schools	68,380	0.09
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Total of population of 76,000,000 receiving education	16,738,363	21.96

A very small percentage (about 8 per cent) of the pupils ascend from the elementary to the high school stage. Only 0.7 per cent enter the universities and colleges.

The school life of the working classes is necessarily a very short one by reason of their early call into the arena of daily work. Hence the importance of making these few years as useful and as interesting to the children of the masses as possible, for such form the hives of national industry.

Go through the common schools of the Pacific Coast states, for example, and note how bare are the walls, and which invite a clothing of interesting and instructive diagrams and illustrations of natural objects; of national and historical records; and of Adam's charts of the world. Go through the normal schools and find how few of the qualifying future teachers of the public schools are being educated so as to understand many

of the simplest laws of Nature, and to teach from natural objects. For example, how few there are who know that the blue color of the sky is due to the minute particles of dust in the atmosphere which serve to reflect the blue or violet rays of the spectrum, whilst the coarser particles of dust in the air, nearer the earth, reflect the white light of all wave-lengths. Moreover, that if there were no particles of dust in the air there could be no clouds or rain; and steam from boilers would be invisible. Manifold, and simple of explanation, are the features of nature in air, earth, and water, and yet how little, and how seldom, are they related, and illustrated in the common schools of the country.

In this object style of teaching much more useful and ever interesting information could be imparted to the rising generation of workers in the field, in the forest, in the mine, and in the sea, which would make their earthly life less one of monotonous toil. As population increases these fields of the Nation's industry must necessarily form the main outlets for occupation; and, even now, every professional calling is overful of workers. In some of the western states, where the working community form so large a percentage of the population, there is clearly more need of public attention being directed to the furthering and fostering of the educational advantages in the common schools, rather than in the state-supported universities and colleges.

In this more popular distribution of useful and practical knowledge of man and of nature, there is opened out a noble field of usefulness to the educator, to the benevolent-minded capitalist, and to the scientist. The creation of more public parks, botanical gardens, and museums of natural objects, in the rising cities; together with the necessary endowment for the

proper maintenance thereof, and for the employment of qualified teachers and lecturers therein, would furnish ample scope for the display of the spirit of true brotherhood. Truly, this educational field is a vast one, and the soil is rich enough to well repay the philanthropic efforts of those who have become so vastly better off in material wealth through the development of the natural resources of a new country, and through the toil, skill, and living needs of the masses.

The voice of human nature is heard crying throughout this large area of North America, for human sympathy in supplying this educational and social want. It is the cry of the many millions of this most enlightened Nation, composed of the descendents of Japhet, Shem, and Ham, whom "God hath made of one blood," for to dwell happily together; and who can thus dwell together, if only the spirit of true brotherhood be fostered and expanded.

The profession of the civil engineer is a noble one from a material standpoint, as it is "the art of directing the great sources of power in nature for the use and convenience of man, as the means of production, and of traffic in states both for external and internal trade, as applied in the construction of roads, bridges, canals, river navigation, and docks, for internal intercourse, and exchange, and in the construction of ports, harbors, breakwaters, and lighthouses, and in the art of navigation by artificial power for the purposes of commerce, and in the construction and adaptation of machinery, and in the drainage of cities and towns, and in the development and working of the mineral deposits of the earth." So, also, is the work of the true scientist, philanthropist, and public educator, a noble one, for in it lies the art of developing, directing, and elevating the

spiritual and intellectual faculties of man through which he can best attain a happier, a healthier, and a more humane earthly existence.

The more popular view of this highest social attribute in man will kill the demon of greed, will conquer many material evils in earth-life with the good instincts of the spiritual side of man, and will correct the faults of the ignorant ideas of socialism.

Utopian though they be, those lines of Macaulay will ever evoke true human sympathy in the heart of the Nation:

"Then none were for a party:
Then all were for the state:
Then the great man helped the poor;
And the poor man loved the great."

At this season of the year, and in this new century, the old Christmas Glee "Peace on Earth; Good Will to Man," should find more humane expression and more fraternal action; and in no other civilized nation than in the United States can it find a more humane choir, or a more cosmopolitan orchestra. Catholic human love, and not charity, is the desire of the intelligent, and hardworking masses, who are making the Nation so famed and respected throughout the world. Let all, who are able, do their utmost to forward the best form of human wisdom, and the best understanding of it, by helping the young and old brotherhood and sisterhood to learn more from nature, in which "they live, move, and have their being."

Father Spirit and Mother Nature are man's best guides. They offer him no dogmas, and no superstition, unworthy of

his high nature, if that be properly understood. It is suggested that the time is ripe for the establishment in the United States of a great national and philanthropic itinerant form of education for the rural population, which form about 52 per cent of the entire population. The Urban and Semi-urban population, which form about 48 per cent, being so much more in touch with one another, have now superior educational advantages over the rural, who, being more scattered, are liable to be left, more or less, out of the educational mind and movement.

In the Pacific Coast states the rural population form the backbone of the industry and commonwealth, which keeps the country so prosperous. It is suggested for the benefit of this community that a plan be devised by which this scattered population may derive better educational advantages, and which can be readily fostered by the Federal Government, by each state legislature, by the principal universities and colleges throughout the country; by the multi-millionaires, and by the many fraternal societies and associations. Such a plan could follow the lines adopted by the Church-Car-Mission. This Mission, through the help of Rockefeller and others, has its well furnished cars, seating 160 people, with its ministers, travelling all through the country, stopping for a week or more at a time, at way-side stations, so long as the community show interest therein. The various railroads haul these cars free of charge, and allow them to stand on a dead siding.

In the same way, properly designed and fitted Lecture-Cars, with competent teachers of natural history and scientific subjects, could furnish the rural population with a vast amount

of useful information, which would be greatly appreciated, and would enhance the wellbeing, and the intellectual faculties of those who have the field, the forest, the mine, and the sea for their spheres of industrial life. A dozen of such itinerating Lecture-Cars, within the confines of the United States, could be built, equipped, and maintained at a comparatively small annual expense; and the results would be highly beneficial to the rural population, and to the Nation.



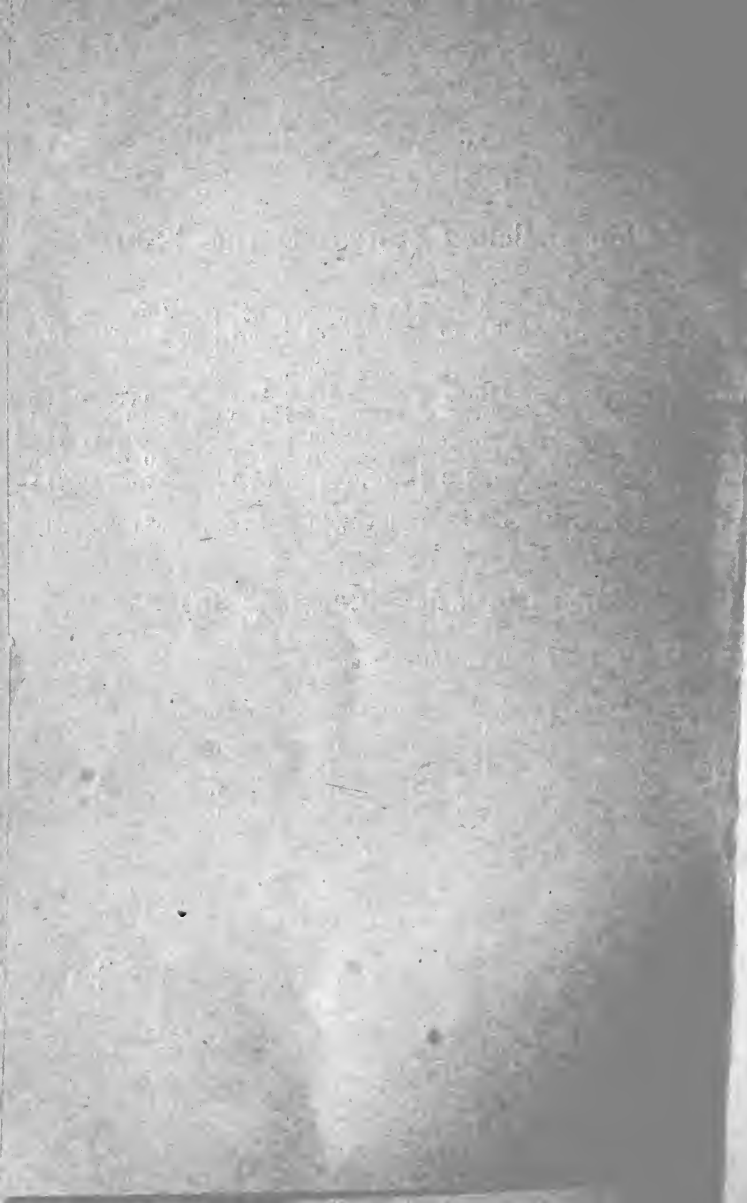
Population of United States—Census 1900

	Total	City-Urban	%	Rural	%
United States	76,148,576	36,620,178	48.1	39,528,398	51.9
Pacific Coast States					
California	1,485,053	868,447	58.5	616,606	41.5
Idaho	161,772	35,428	21.9	126,344	78.1
Nevada	42,335	9,314	22.	33,021	78.
Oregon	413,583	183,610	44.4	229,926	55.6
Washington	518,103	270,447	52.2	247,656	47.8
Totals	2,620,849	1,367,246	39.8	1,253,553	60.2

Education Statistics—Census 1900

Children Attending Public Schools in United States:

Under 5 years of age, 0.3 per cent of total attendance.					
5 to 9	"	"	31.9	"	"
10 to 14	"	"	48.3	"	"
15 to 17	"	"	14.4	"	"
18 to 20	"	"	3.9	"	"
21 and over,			1.2	"	"





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